

began to ask of all what was the
circumference
of their city; the people had to confess
that they
were ignorant of so simple a fact.
The affable
King revealed the result of the
experiment, and
impressed the Neapolitans with a
more than
courtly amazement at his acute
mind.

On October 4, 1140, the King
departed for
Palermo. He returned in the spring,
1141, to the
eternal quarrel with Innocent over
bishops and
frontiers. It survived the death of
Innocent, who
ended his stormy life at the end of
September,
1143; not the first of the Cluniac
Popes to feel
that, if "the tiara was splendid and
felt like fire,"
it could become a weight of lead,
Celestine II,
took up the war with the King of whom
the Roman
Curia would have made a protege",
and after his
death in March, 1144, Lucius II, the
Cardinal
Girard of the Beneventan struggle,

In June, 1144, Roger sailed into the
harbour of
Gaeta; the exact events of its
submission are not
clear but the frontier of his kingdom
was hence-
forth fixed to the north-west at the old
sea-repub-
lic, the sister once of a free Naples,
Amalfi, Sorrento,
On the other hand his attempt upon
Terraecina,
following after the occupation of

GaSta, was
repulsed by the allied forces of the
Pope and the
citizens, The King's sons received a
roving
commission against Papal territory;
they beset
Veroli, and burned and plundered
within the
borders of the Patrimony,
The struggle was ended by a seven-
years' truce